



**File Code:** 1570

**Date:** March 17, 2011

**Route To:**

**Subject:** Appeal Disposition - Three Trails OHV Environmental Impact Statement

**To:** Regional Forester, R-6

This memorandum reflects my recommendation regarding the disposition of the appeal on the Three Trails OHV Project Final Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision (ROD). I have enclosed a summary of the appellants' issues, along with a short description of my findings. The appeal review was conducted in accordance with 36 CFR 215 and regional procedures.

I recommend affirming the decision made by the Responsible Official. I have reviewed the project documentation provided by the Crescent Ranger District and considered the appellants' appeal issues. The decision documentation is consistent with the Deschutes National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (as amended) and the Northwest Forest Plan (as amended).

I believe the project analysis adequately supports the decision and is consistent with law, regulation and policy. Specifically, the decision to designate routes and trails for motorized recreation use in the project area will reduce impacts of unregulated OHV use elsewhere on the Crescent Ranger District and reduce road densities on the Deschutes National Forest.

The appellants from the Cascadia Wildlands, Cascadia's Ecosystem Advocates/League of Wilderness Defenders, Sierra Club, Wildlands CPR, and Winter Wildlands Alliance request that the Responsible Official withdraw the ROD and issue a new decision that is compliant with law, regulation, and policy. The appellants' specifically request that the Deschutes and Ochoco National Forests first issue a decision on a travel management plan, then prepare a new EIS for this project that uses the travel management plan as the baseline condition, include over-the-snow vehicles, and proposes fewer designated miles and fewer routes that connect to other jurisdictions.

After reviewing the appeal record, I recommend that the requested relief be denied and the Responsible Official's decision be affirmed on all points. Enclosed with this memo are my responses to each appeal issue.

/s/ Jeff Walter  
JEFF WALTER  
Forest Supervisor

cc: Bradley Paul, Debbie Anderson

